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TUESDAY
MARCH 23, 1954

I talked to Doug Dillon this morning. He had cleared with Bidault the question of MacArthur coming over here and sent a telegram to that effect.

Ophuls, the German Legal Adviser, came in and said the Saar negotiations had hopelessly broken down. I advised him to have the Chancellor, if he were agreeable to it, communicate at once with Mr. Bidault and suggest that, since the Brussels meeting was not taking place, they get together at the same time and try to settle the Saar problem.

Julian Allen stopped in to ask whether I would consider becoming President of the Travellers' Club, a position which has been vacant since Duff's death. I told him I felt honored but this would be unsuitable since I did not intend to live in France. I offered to do what I could to get Kippy Tuck to take the presidency.

Von Walther, from the German Embassy, called to say Blankenhorn would like to come down to see me Thursday morning, but I answered I would be in Bonn tomorrow and we could foregather there.

After days of hurriedly eaten weekday meals of toasted sandwiches and Algerian wine downstairs in our office canteen, E. picked me up today and transported me to Le Grand Véfour, in the Palais Royal, one of the most sympathetic restaurants in the world. There she ordered and paid. We had a wonderful time. The old sommelier entered into the spirit of the occasion and between the two of them produced a Pouilly-sur-Loire 1952 and a Volnay 1949 that left nothing to be desired except a siesta. ~~A few paces away we bought~~ four seventeenth century flower prints.

Marshall Shulman visited me. He is over here on a ~~Rockefeller grant~~ but is still attached to the State Department. He is very able.

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Yesterday and today we have prepared a lot of papers on the Saar showing what concessions have been made by both sides and what the divergencies are on this subject.

Jim Conant telephoned me twice this afternoon to say the French had abandoned what had previously been considered an agreement not to press for a coupling of permission from the AHC to approve the so-called Constitutional Amendment with a demand that the EDC Protocols be signed by President Heuss. This is sheer blackmail, and Jim says he will not be a party to it. He has telephoned Doug and I also have spoken to him, and Doug has been in communication with Bidault on this point but does not know what can be accomplished. Meanwhile the Quai d'Orsay has leaked some unfortunate comments and the German press is aroused over the issue.

Jim Conant says there will be a stormy German Cabinet meeting tomorrow morning and, in his opinion, if the French Government does not change its attitude we might as well forget our wishes to have a Saar settlement.

Tonight at 8:20 I left for Bonn.

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